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## PATENT

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#### In re Application of:

|                  |                    |                   |              |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Application No.: | 10/523,404         | Examiner:         | R. C. Watson |
| Filing Date:     | February 3, 2005   | Art Unit:         | 3723         |
| First Inventor:  | Y. HARUNA          | Customer No.:     | 23364        |
| Attorney No.:    | HARU3001/JEK/JS    | Confirmation No.: | 6233         |
| For:             | Clamping Apparatus |                   |              |

#### AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

#### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is responsive to the restriction notice dated August 2, 2006 in the above application.

#### AMENDMENT

##### Amendments to the Claims

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the claims as shown on the following pages under the heading LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS. The list shows the status of all claims presently in the application including any current amendments. This list of claims is intended to supersede all prior versions of the claims in the application. Any cancellation of claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer.